

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS
DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV
ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: D. Wortman

Group Art Unit: 1648

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit: 1-15-04

Kimberly A. Iorio

Kimberly A. Iorio

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

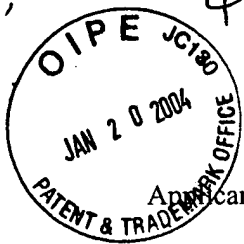
Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 17, 2003, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above entitled METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES are the following:

1. Amendment and Response (12 pages);
2. Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 (5 Pages);
3. Exhibit A (6 Pages);
4. Exhibit B (7 Pages);
5. Declaration (3 Pages); and
6. Return Receipt Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
Shah, et al.

Cheryl L. Becker
Registration No. 35,441
Attorney for Applicants

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